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The Affairs of I——d set in a
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IN A
L E T T E R

FROM

The Honourable *Hellen O'Roon,*

TO

The Right Honourable
Lady Viscountess ***** in *London.*

DUBLIN Printed:

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The Honourable William O'Connell

TO

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Lady Viscountess in London

DUBLIN: Printed

LONDON: Published

at the Press of the

in Dublin

[The printer]



THE
Pr——te Vindicated, &c.

Dublin, Smock-Alley, Jan. 20, 1754.

Madam,

I HAVE received the Honour of your Letter, and am not surprized that your Ladyship's Curiosity should be raised; that you should be desirous to know,
how

how Affairs stand in *Ireland*. I wish I could fully satisfy you: I doubt my my poor female Abilities; but as I see a great deal of Company, as some Lords, and many Members fill my Circle, as talking Women, Judges, Commissioners, the Military, and the Gown compose at Times my Coterie; I shall be the better enabled to entertain you. We in *Dublin*, and you in *London*, are in the Situation of two Sets of People, who make use of the same Perspective, but at different Ends of the Glass; we look at you through that Side which magnifies, and presents you nearer much than you really are; and you look at us through the Side which diminishes unreasonably, and

and throws us at an apparent great Distance. There are many other Optical Deceptions: We appear to be at present a divided People; but your Ladyship's Knowledge of this Country, and your Sagacity, must convince you to the contrary. If that had been really the Case, what Quarrels would not this Winter have produced? How many Lives would have been sacrificed to Heat and Animosity? For the *Irish* are hasty and brave, and have not yet learned that polished Hypocrisy, of covering an angered Mind with a smooth Countenance. But they really are all of one Way of Thinking, except some few, and those inconsiderable in their Characters and Understandings;

standings; who have been the innocent Dupes of their own Youth, and Ignorance of the World.

WE have had indeed a Rumor, that you were going to send us a Governor, who to convince us that he would look upon us upon different Optical Principles; would himself have wore a large Pair of true *British* Spectacles. However, send us who you please, we shall always be the same; dutiful, loyal Subjects; Friends to *Great Britain*, but never Enemies to poor *Ireland*; to whom we owe our Properties and Dignities: and I believe, Madam, you will not be astonished that we, who roll about
this

this Metropolis, that Visit, and are visited by sounding Titles, and great Officers ; that we, who have never seen a larger Capital City, should be inclined to think ourselves a little considerable ; especially when at any Time our naturally sanguine Constitutions are a little warmed by our native Hospitality, by good Chear, and old Claret. That the lowest Rank of People should fall into this Error is no Wonder, when it is considered, that a little Industry entitles them to Plenty, and that they have been born in a City which has enchanted their youthful Ideas, by its delicious Habitation, by the Delights of its agreeable Environs. Madam, you can scarce

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conceive

conceive how the little Heart of an *Irish* Taylor, or Grocer, or even a Shoe-boy, exults with Pleasure in a *Sunday's* Walk in the *Phoenix* Park, or when he struts on the *North* Wall on a Holiday, and sees Ships importing Luxury from all Parts of the World, as he imagines, for his happy Countrymen. Little does he think, that those proud Vessels return to *England*, and other Parts, loaded chiefly with their Gold and Silver.

WE have made no Complaints, have received the Law from *Great Britain*, and are willing still to receive it: we have been contented with such Provision as has been made for

us by our Mother-Sister-Country :
 but what we now complain of is, the
 having it crammed down our Throats.
 Cannot Folks wait the coming of our
 Stomach, suffer us as usual to dress,
 and serve it in the Manner most agree-
 able to us ? And if our Appetites are
 so squeamish as to insist on our own
 Cooks to dress it, why should we not
 be indulged ? There is an old Proverb,
 ---But we will thank God for our
 Meat, and think as little as possible
 of our Cooks. For our present ones
 indeed are very indifferent ; the Chief
 seldom does any Thing himself, and
 the two under ones are abominable ;
 so bad, that there are few Kitchens
 in Town, where, were they to touch

a Saucepan, they would not have a Dishclout pinned to their Tail.

ALL former L——d L——nts endeavoured to lull the People of this Country in their placid Repose, and the wisest Secre—ys rocked themselves the Cradle. *Ir——d* slept with all the Innocence of an Infant, till awkward Nurses, by sticking misplaced Pins, have awakened the poor Babe, who at that Juncture was cutting her Eye-Teeth, and is indeed a little cross; which will soon go off with other Management.

THE People in general of this Island, not only love, but are prone
ridicu-

ridiculously to admire whatever comes from your Side the Water. Occupied in making the most of their Estates, in Planting, in Agriculture, in making their Roads good, and their Rivers navigable ; they attended but little to Matters foreign to those Purposes. They received and welcomed in the Lump all the Judges, Bishops, Commissioners, Pensioners, you were pleased to send them : Those that arrived ignorant, they informed ; and those that at their first coming were sulky and selfish, they soon polished by their polite Society ; and indeed those among them of the best Sense, soon became like themselves.

EVERY

EVERY Thing was happy here, and agreeable to *E——d.* Mr *B——le* conducted for many Years the little Business their was to do in *P——t*, and contented himself with a very small Share of Power to reward his Friends, who were the most strictly attached to the Government; he did not affect The Minister; he avoided all shew of Popularity; what little Influence he had, arose solely from his own native Worth, an amiable Simplicity of Manners, a natural Affability, a sincere Love for his Country, and his known Attachment to the *H——r* Suc——n: from no wrong-headed pretended Patriotism, from no Preference as an *Irish-*
man:

man: insomuch, that were he an *Englistman*, and the *Pr*—te an *Irishman*, the same Preference would equally remain to him. Is it then to be wondered at, that he and his Friends should be disgusted, to find a *L*—d *L*—t adding all the Weight of his high Station, to endeavour to change the natural successful Administration of Affairs into other Hands? But into what Hands? into the most disagreeable of all to this Country, into those of an Ecclesiastic; whom Fortune seems to have blinded with the Rapidity of his Exaltation. He was a pretty Sort of a Man, and by a proper, decent, sensible Behaviour, might

might have appeased the Envy he had attracted in his own Profession. By a pious, hospitable, charitable Life, in a few Years he would have removed the Prejudices and Objections (to his supreme Station in the Church) on account of his Youth. Had he been a Politician, he would have allied himself to some considerable Family here; he would have at least affected to have been sincerely in the Interest of that Country, where alone he was or could be so considerable, and so warmly cloathed with rich Revenues.

COMMON Sense would have taught him, his Palace should have been the

ren-

Rendezvous of all those, who were most conspicuous for their Morals and Sanctity of Life; his Table should have been filled by the most eminent for Learning and Virtue. Such would have protected and witnessed to his Character in the Day of Trial; and though I detest all Calumny and Slander, and believe him to be totally innocent of all unpardonable Crimes against our Sex; yet I must confess, his Indiscretions, concurring with an effeminate Turn of Constitution, his Celibacy, and even his unblemished Chastity, have contributed to prompt the Vulgar to blacken his Character with ridiculous and
galling Aspersions, so galling, that

it requires all his Innocence to support it.

BUT alas, instead of taking any one Measure to obviate that Malevolence, which, in his happy Situation, was sure to attend him: He fell into every Error that Inexperience and collegiate Self-sufficiency could involve him. Not contented to be at the Head of the Church, and one of the triple Heads of the State, he affected Mystery where Simplicity alone was requisite. Instead of assuming a Patriarchial Dignity, he descended to the most puerile Amusements; his Companions were very young Men, not so much distinguished by the

Fortunes, as by their confessed Inexperience. Environed by these, and joined by others, who had their own Purposes to serve, he flattered himself, that to the Character of a fine Gentleman, he should add that of a great Statesman. Egregious Delusion! to give up the Character of a worthy, plain, pious Prelate, for that of a worldly Politician.

He endeavoured to avail himself of the Partiality of his Patron, the present Lord L——t——t, to accomplish his Views, to change the Channel of all Affairs in Church and State, and to unite them singly in his own Hands.

It happened that the Se--t--ry was his Cotemporary and Friend, young, and raw in Buſineſs, the under Se--t--y was a Creature of his own. So our juvenile Triumvirate proceeded to accompliſh their new System; a Task too arduous for their united Underſtandings!

HAD they been acquainted with the Characters of the Perſons they were to operate upon, they would never have undertaken a Work, which really would have required the moſt experienced Politicians to have effected. I am far from thinking they were all three of them odious; but tb ft

certainly did not possess one Talent requisite to jockey their Competitors; for, to use the *Curragh* Stile, they had neither Speed, Activity, nor Bottom. They had not been long enough in training; and as they all three came out of the same Stable, they had the same Defects. Doctor *Swift* would not have allowed them to have been of the true Hoynhim Race, they were so shy and so vicious.

WITH such Cattle as these, one would not undertake to Plow an ordinary Field, much less to turn up and break the Clods of a whole
tion.

THUS,

Thus, Madam, I have given you my weak Speculations, upon our insignificant Differences, which have produced a seeming Division of Sentiments; just as the Want of *Essex-Bridge* has divided our Town, which a new and a better Bridge will very soon connect again.

Those People who have Business at the Castle, chuse to lodge and range themselves on this Side the *Liffy*, and a few Country Gentlemen have taken Lodgings in *Smock-Alley* for the present; but I give you my Word, that they all long till the Communication is restored.

usual take the Air upon the
 and, and now and then a Bottle
 of Clontarf.

WE Women, you must know, are
 all of the Sp—r's Side; and your
 Ladyship very well knows, that who-
 ever possesses the Women, will be sure
 to govern the Men. I hope your
 Ladyship will do us the justice to re-
 present Mr B—le to your numerous
 Acquaintance as a plain, honest Man,
 of an antient Family, highly sensible
 of the Ties which unite the Hearts of
 all the Protestants of this Country to
 their *English* Fellow-Subjects, and full
 of warmest Affection, Zeal, and
 Loyalty to the King and his Govern-

I AM afraid you will think my
 is turned, to talk at this Rate upon
 Subject totally out of my Sphere; but
 I could not otherwise answer the
 many Questions you asked me in
 your last obliging Letter.

I HAVE for this one Morning laid
 aside my Cross-Stitch and Ten-Stitch,
 and shall at all Times be happy in
 every Opportunity to testify my Af-
 fection to you; as I am,

Your Ladyship's

Most Obedient Servant

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